

Hardesty's
MONROE COUNTY

HISTORY OF MONROE COUNTY.

Monroe was organized in the year 1799, and therefore antedates the beginning of the present century. It was the twelfth county of the "Old Dominion" which was formed west of the Alleghany mountains and was named in honor of James Monroe, the fifth president of the United States. Of him a biographical sketch will be found elsewhere in this work. Greenbrier was formed in 1778, and for eleven years embraced within its limits all of what is now Monroe county; but as the last century drew to a close the old pioneers became wearied with long jaunts to Lewisburg to attend court, and accordingly a petition asking for the formation of a new county was circulated, numerously signed and forwarded to the "old capital city on the James," where it was laid before the general assembly. That body heard it with favor, and on the 14th day of January, 1799, a bill was passed entitled "An act to provide for the division of Greenbrier and the formation of a new county."

A copy of that bill may be found on page 168 of Henning's General Statutes of Virginia for the last-named year. The first section declared that all the territory included within the following

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one distinct and new county to be called and known as Monroe county." Thus was checkered upon the map of Virginia her twelfth subdivision in the trans-mountain region.

THE FIRST COUNTY COURT.

Another section of the bill provided for holding the county court, and fixed the time and place. And in compliance with that provision, on the 21st day of May, 1799, the first court ever held in the county convened at the house of George King, Esq., which stood about one mile east of the present site of the town of Union, on lands now owned by A. J. Kelly. The court was composed of the following-named justices, each holding a commission from his excellency, James Monroe, governor of Virginia, viz.: William Hutchison, James Alexander, Isaac Estill, William Haynes, John Hutchison, John Gray, John Byrnesides, William Graham, James Hanly and William Vawter.

An election for clerk resulted in the choice of John Hutchison, who took

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An election for clerk resulted in the choice of John Hutchison, who took the various oaths prescribed by law and at once entered upon the discharge of the duties of his office. John Woodward was granted a license to practice law, and was appointed to prosecute in behalf of the commonwealth, and took the prescribed oaths. It was now noon, and it was "ordered that the court adjourn from George King's house to his barn for conveniency." Upon reassembling Isaac Estill presented a commission from the governor appointing him sheriff of the county, and he, together with James Alexander, William Haynes and John Byrnesides, entered into a bond "conditioned according to law," for the faithful discharge of the duties of the office. Then John Wallace and James Alexander were each granted a license "to keep an ordinary" at their respective places of abode. John Byrnesides was recommended to the governor as a suitable person to be appointed to the office of surveyor of lands. On motion of Isaac Estill John Arbuckle was appointed under or deputy sheriff of the county.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The court having fixed upon the land of James Alexander (the same upon which the town of Union now stands) as a suitable location for the county seat, it was ordered that the courthouse be built at that place.

The court then proceeded to fix the rates for ordinaries as follows: For a warm dinner, 2 shillings; a cold dinner, 1 shilling and 6 pence; a warn breakfast the same; a cold breakfast, 1 shilling and 3 pence; lodging in a feather bed 9 pence; lodging on a chaff bed, 6 pence; corn, per gallon, 9 pence; oats, per gallon, 7 pence; pasture for horses 24 hours, 6 pence; "stablage" and hay 24 hours, 1 shilling; whiskey, per gallon, 8 shillings; common run, per gallon, 20 shillings; spirits, per gallon, 32 shillings; peach brandy, per gallon, 12 shillings; Madeira wine, per gallon, 30 shillings; Teneriffe and Lisbon wine, per gallon, 24 shillings; other wines, per gallon, 20 shillings; cider, per gallon, 3 shillings; beer, per gallon, 2 shillings.

From "ordinaries" the court turned its attention to the military establishment, and James Graham was recommended to the governor as one well qualified to discharge the duties of colonel of the county. John Hanly and John Hutchison were recommended for majors; Isaac Estill, John Byrnesides, James Jones, Robert Nickle, William Graham, Samuel

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Then civil business once more engated attention, and James Graham was recommended to the governor as a suitable person "to execute the office of coroner," and Thomas Lowe, Robert Dunbar, John Cottell, William Dison, George Foster, Enos Halstead and Joshua Lewis were appointed constables.

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FIRST CIRCUIT

The first trial held in Monteagle Springs on the 1st of April, with the Hon. W. H. Moore of the district of Marion counties presiding. John C. DeLoach to prosecute the State, and Samuel DeLoach to defend the defendant.

At this trial the State never sat. The county of Marion is composed of the following gentlemen: Dennis, John, Samuel T. LeMay, John Snodgrass, Joseph C. Vawter, John Byrnesides, and others. After the trial, the present indictment was quashed, and the State again tried the case, and the jury found a verdict of guilty, and the defendant was sentenced to prison for two years. Zachariah Kincaid, Esq., being the attorney for the State, and John C. DeLoach being the attorney for the defendant.

On the morning of the third day the court convened, as per adjournment, at the house of James Alexander, where Union now stands, and the committee on the site of the public buildings, after viewing the ground, decided to postpone the matter until the next term of court.

Isaac Estill, sheriff of the county, then "excepts to the consequences which may happen for the want of a jail for securing prisoners that may be in his custody." Then it was "ordered that the court shall be held at the house of James Alexander until the court-house shall be ready for holding it therein."

The first civil suit was tried at the second term, which convened on the 18th day of June, 1799. It was that of John Hinchman vs. Levi Lowe for the recovery of money. It resulted in a judgment in favor of the plaintiff for the sum of three pounds seventeen shillings and costs.

FIRST CIRCUIT SUPERIOR COURT

The first circuit superior court ever held in Monroe convened at the Sweet Springs on the 19th day of May, 1800.

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The first circuit superior court ever held in Monroe convened at the Sweet Springs on the 19th day of May, 1800, with the Hon. Archibald Stewart, judge of the district composed of the counties of Greenbrier, Botetourt, Montgomery, Kanawha and Monroe, presiding. John Skinner was appointed to prosecute in behalf of the State, and Samuel Dew was made clerk.

At this term the first grand jury that ever sat for the body of Monroe county was empanelled. It was composed of the following named gentlemen: William Royal, foreman; Dennis Cochran, John Mathews, Samuel Todd, Hugh Caperton, John Lemayeur, Joseph Snodgrass, Isaac Snodgrass, William Howell, John Peck, Joseph Cloyd, John Lewis, William Vawter, Jacob Persinger, John Byrnesides, and James Byrnesides. After their instructions they retired "to consider their presentments." Two true bills of indictments for felony were returned, one against Jack Hunt (free colored), and the other against John Kincaid; also two for assault and battery, Zachariah Estill and John Thompson being the parties charged. Hunt and Kincaid were both tried and acquitted.

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at this term. The second term of this court convened at the same place on the 18th day of October, 1800, at which time the celebrated Paul Carrington presided as judge.

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THE PIONEER

It has been said that truth is stranger than fiction, and such it certainly is to the student of border history who, in his imagination, sees a theater upon the stage of which is played such dramas and tragedies as have never been dreamed of by the romancist and novelist. First is presented the picture of a broad continent over which roam a savage race destined to become the fiercest and most relentless foe which the Anglo-Saxon has encountered in his march around the globe. Then on the rim of that continent he sees a little colony which, like the stone cut out of the mountain without hands, is destined to fill the world. With that scene begins the period of blood which for one hundred and eighty-five years stands, in its horrid cruelties, without a parallel in the annals of the world.

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The prominent character in all these scenes is the pioneer. He belongs exclusively to the age in which he lived. No other age can claim him. He was an actor in scenes of no common kind; but the frontier man and the frontier family in the Virginias are things of a bygone age. It was necessary then that the head of the family should be hardy, fearless, capable of enduring labor and exposure without injury, and able by day or night to find his way through the forest with the certainty which characterized the walk of the Indian. Familiarity with the use of the rifle and the tomahawk was scarcely considered an accomplishment. It was necessary that every man should know the ditch from which descended all his skill would be called into requisition in defending his cabin against the attack of the Indians.

In addition, he was a soldier, and true bravery and valor were displayed everywhere and at all times by him; it mattered not whether it was in the open field at Point Pleasant and Talladega, or defending the lonely cabin of the mountaineer, he was ever the same. Alas! that the names of so many have been forgotten! It was the lament of the great Roman lyric poet that the actions of the heroes who flourished before the days of Agamemnon had passed into forgetfulness for want of a recording pen. True, the names of Boone, Kenton, Arbuckle, Lewis, Stewart, Wetzel, McCulloch, Brady, Lowther and others will live while history lasts, but the names of many thousands of others who were as great in their sphere as they, have long been lost in the oblivion of the past.

What, too, should we say of the mothers and daughters of that period?—women whose souls and bodies were so sorely tried in the fierce fires of the Indian wars. No timid shrieks escaped them; no maidenly fears caused them to shrink from their self-imposed and onerous task. Israel had her Judith and Deborah; France glories in her Joan and Lavalette; two of them unsexed themselves in the

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OLD FORTS IN MONROE

With the first settlements in what is now Monroe, came the erection of forts or block-houses. At various times from 1769 to the close of the Indian wars, there were no less than five of

these structures erected. One stood on the Pickaway Plains, about four miles north of the present site of the town of Union; one on Indian creek; another on the lands now owned by Dr. Shanklin; a fourth on what is now known as the Cook farm, near Centreville, and a fifth called Woods fort, on Rich creek. That on Indian creek was called Jarretts fort; the year in which it was built can not be definitely ascertained, but it is known to have been garrisoned strongly in the year 1773, for in that year five soldiers, including three of the Van Bibber brothers, were detailed and sent to the mouth of the Great Kanawha for the purpose of exploring the route by which the infading army should march the next year. They performed the work, and it was along their trail that the army of General Lewis marched from Camp Union (now Lewisburg), to Point Pleasant, in 1774. It was within the walls of this fort that the Rev. John Alderson (noticed elsewhere in this work), together with his family, was stationed during the year 1777. The writer, after a thorough examination of records, is of the

elsewhere in this work), together with his family, was stationed during the year 1777. The writer, after a thorough examination of records, is of the opinion that no direct attack was ever made upon any of these forts, but behind their walls doubtless many of the early settlers were saved from falling victims to the tomahawk and scalping knife of the barbarian.

The term fort, in the period of which we write, was applied to any place of defense or refuge, but it is not sufficiently concise to convey a correct idea of these frontier establishments. They were divided into three classes—block houses stockades, and stations. A block-house was a square two-story structure, the upper one projecting over the lower a space of about two feet, and from this the inmates could fire upon an enemy attempting to scale the walls. But one door opened into the rude and peculiar fortresses, and that was made very strong, so as to defy entrance by any ordinary means of assault. Such places of refuge may appear very trifling to those who have seen the formidable military garrisons of Europe and America; but they answered the purpose, for the Indians had no artillery. They seldom felt as secure as though they had been in the famous fortress of the Mediterranean. To this

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class of forts belonged those of Monroe, as also did Donnally's fort, in Greenbrier.

EARLY LAND TITLES

The fertile lands west of the mountains was the principal attraction to the pioneer, and to possess a portion of them he risked his all—his life. But the time of which we write it cost more to survey the lands than they were worth, and this fact gave rise to several new titles unheard of save on the American frontier. There was no feudal system, no victorious conqueror to divide the grand estate among those who had borne arms in its conquest, so the frontiersmen “invented” a title of their own, or rather several kinds of titles, which we here notice. The explorer in the wilderness came upon a site which he wished to claim for his own; so, near some spring or fountain, he “deadened” or “belted” a number of trees, and the next visitor in quest of a suitable location passed on, regarding the spot as already “taken up.”

Another title was what was denominated the “brushheap right.” A suitable location was found in some smiling valley by the side of a little

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Another title was what was denominated the "brushheap right." A suitable location was found in some smiling valley by the side of a little river, and the would-be proprietor cut and built an immense heap or pile of brush, and around it deadened the timber. The next comer recognized the title, somewhat on the principle of the right of discovery, and sought another location. This last appears to have been borrowed from the Cherokee Indians, among whom prevailed the custom of marking the lines of the hunting grounds by belting the timber.

A third kind of title was what was known as a "corn right." It was customary with many of the first pioneers to leave their families east of the mountains, cross over, clear a piece of ground and raise a crop of corn sufficient for a year's subsistence, and then return and bring the wife and little ones to the cabin home in the wilderness. During his absence no one trespassed upon his premises, for his corn crop was regarded as a valid title.

Under these various titles much of the land in Monroe was occupied. But

at last the war of the Revolution came on, and at its close the title of the Island Empire to the lands in the West was forever abrogated, and Virginia thenceforth disposed of her lands to her honored sons who, for eight long years, had marched barefooted through the snows of New England, or struggled through the pestilential swamps of the South. She opened a land office, from which were issued warrants, or patents, and in which the titles above referred to were legalized.

A PIONEER WEDDING

For a long time after the first settlement of this section the inhabitants, as a rule, married young. There was no distinction of rank, and very little of fortune. On these accounts, the first impression of love resulted in marriage; and a family establishment cost but a little labor and nothing else. A glance at a pioneer

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For a long time after the first settlement of this section the inhabitants, as a rule, married young. There was no distinction of rank, and very little of fortune. On these accounts, the first impression of love resulted in marriage; and a family establishment cost but a little labor and nothing else. A glance at a pioneer wedding of a hundred years ago serves to mark the manners of our forefathers, and shows the grade of civilization which has succeeded their rude social condition.

At that time a wedding created a great sensation, and attracted the attention of what is now an entire county. This is not surprising when it is remembered that this was almost the only gathering which was not attended with the labor of reaping, log-rolling, building a cabin, or planning some campaign against a barbarous foe. A wedding is announced, and the company, consisting of the inhabitants of a dozen miles around, has gathered. Let us look at it. An assemblage of people, without a store, tailor, milliner or mantua-maker within a hundred miles. An assemblage of horses, without a blacksmith or saddler within an equal distance. The gentlemen dressed in shoe packs, moccasins, leather breeches, leggins, linsey hunting shirts, and all home made. The ladies in linsey skirts, coarse shoes, coarse linen sunbonnets and buckskin gloves, if any. If there were any buckles, rings, buttons or ruffles, they were the relics of olden times—family pieces from parents or grandparents. The horses were caparisoned with old saddles, old

bridles or halters, and pack saddles with a bear skin or piece of coarse cloth thrown over them; a piece of rope or buckskin thong often was substituted for the girth. Such was the appearance of the wedding company in Monroe and the Greenbrier valley a hundred years ago.

WEDDINGS OF 1799

We here give a list of those who were among the first to enter the marriage relation in Monroe county, for they year 1799. They were: John Arbuckle and Nancy Stadghill, John Tennis and Polly Kincaid, George Koontz and Peggy Keenan, John Nicholas and Margaret Swope, Bartholomew Ramsey and Margaret Wiseman, Lloyd Upton and Nancy Alderson, Charles Shover and Anna Legg, Joseph Canterbury and Elizabeth Thompson, Allen Christian and Nancy Cooper, James Willey and Ann Swinney, Henry Miller and Rhoda Brooking, Isaac Edwards and Delila Smith, Hillery Blankenship and Betsey Walker, Charles Meek and Elizabeth Halsted, Edward Monohan and Mary Clarke, Richard McNeely and Mary Blankenship, Isaac Dawson and Mary Dunbar, George Park and Elizabeth Brown, William Lee and Polly Davis, John Lemmon and Mary Kerr, Zebulon Lewis and Jane Best.

Swinney, Henry Miller and
Brooking, Isaac Edwards and Delila
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Walker, Charles Meek and Elizabeth
Halsted, Edward Monohan and Mary
Clarke, Richard McNeely and Mary
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Dunbar, George Park and Elizabeth
Brown, William Lee and Polly Davis,
John Lemmon and Mary Kerr, Zebulon
Lewis and Jane Best.

WEDDINGS OF 1800

Samuel Engle and Elizabeth Miller,
George Johnston and Nancy Johnston,
William Wood and Mary Ann McGraw,
Abner Lewis and Eleanor Dickson,
Joseph McClung and Elizabeth Ellis,
Robert Dew and Nancy Wallace,
George McGuire and Nancy Miller,
Reuben Wharton and Elizabeth Gullet,
John W. Nutt and Ruth Legg, John H.
Ralison and Abigail Phillips, James
Humphries and Isabella Charlton, John
Jefferies and Sarah Night, Jelson Legg
and Mary Jefferies, Thomas Lowe and
Rachel Wickline, Obediah Neal and
Sarah Miller, Calton Ester and
Elizabeth Winkleblack, John Johnston
and Rachel Johnston, William Mathews
and Jenny Berry, Joseph Morey and
Sally Higgins, John Greenlee and Mary
Allen, John Clark and Susanna Ballard,
James Henderson and Elizabeth Maddy,

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WEDDINGS OF 1801

John Lumpkin and Elizabeth Abbott, Daniel Hendrix and Ann Keatly, John Mann and Milley Harney, William Bartin and Betsy Paul, James Ellis and Seele Woodside, Isaac Hutchinson and Sally Ballard, John Neely and Martha Neely, Thomas Fitzpatrick and Katharine Humphries, Daniel Miller and Elizabeth Comber, George Whitecotton and Martha Leary, James Thompson and Polly Gastin, David Pain and Elizabeth Nosamon, Alexander Brison and Rebecca Bowls, Isaac Stroud and Phebe Dickinson, John Park and Jane Hutchinson, Samuel Pack and Sarah Brown, Joseph Cook and Ann Lewis, Seth Mahuson and Polly Galahon, William Wiseman and Polly Ramsey, Benjamin Berry and Mary Ann Boggess, Alexander Montgomery and Anne Murry, Robert Steele and Sally Champ. These were they who founded the families of Monroe at the beginning of the present century, and many, very many of the enterprising and prosperous people of the country today are their descendants.

NARRATIVE OF THE CAPTURE OF MRS. MARGARET HANLY

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NARRATIVE OF THE CAPTURE OF MRS. MARGARET HANLY PAULEE BY THE SHAWNEE INDIANS.

[Dictated by herself to her grandson, Allen T. Caperton, a few years before her death]

The narrator of the following in after years became Mrs. Margaret Hanly Erskine. Her death occurred on the 3d of June, 1842, in the 90th year of her age. The scene of the capture related below is located on Rich creek, a short distance east of Peterstown, in Monroe county.

"It was in the fall (23 September, 1779), that Margaret Paulee and her husband, John Paulee, with one infant

(female) child, about one year old, set out from the county of Monroe in a journey to Kentucky, for the purpose of establishing themselves. They were attacked by a party of Indians, who, as it was conjectured, had some notice of the projected trip, and waylaid them for the purpose of making captives. There were six Indians, and the party in company with Mr. Paulee, consisted of Mr. P. and wife, Robert Wallis, Brice Miller and James Paulee. Each man was armed with a rifle, but there being no cause to apprehend an attack, only one was loaded. It was about 12 o'clock, when I was riding in front of the cattle we were taking with us with my baby in my arms. We were about five miles from the mouth of East river, when I was alarmed by the report of a gun which seemed to have been fired from behind a log, at which my horse took fright, and at the same moment I heard my husband's voice calling to me repeatedly to ride back. I turned to obey the summons when one of the party of Indians came from behind a tree, pulled me from my horse and struck me senseless with his club. What took place during this state of insensibility I never knew, except what I could gather from the Indians, but the scalp of poor Wallis and my husband's gun were objects that met my eyes upon recovering, bearing evidence of the scene that must have been enacted. There was also in our company the wife of Wallis, and also the wife and child of James Paulee. The latter were taken prisoners and placed on a log beside me after I had been struck.

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which I was dragged from behind a log, at which my horse took fright, and at the same moment I heard my husband's voice calling to me repeatedly to ride back. I turned to obey the summons when one of the party of Indians came from behind a tree, pulled me from my horse and struck me senseless with his club. What took place during this state of insensibility I never knew, except what I could gather from the Indians, but the scalp of poor Wallis and my husband's gun were objects that met my eyes upon recovering, bearing evidence of the scene that must have been enacted. There was also in our company the wife of Wallis, and also the wife and child of James Paulee. The latter were taken prisoners and placed on a log beside me after I had been restored to consciousness. It was while we sat on the log that an Indian came with the reeking scalp of poor Wallis, who of course had been killed. My husband when he saw me dragged from my horse, ran up and fought over my body with three of the Indians, using nothing but the hilt end of his gun, when one of them put his gun to his breast and shot him through. He, thinking his wife and child were both dead, and that he had received a mortal wound, left the strife and started on his way back. He fainted several times, and observed the Indians watching him attentively, expecting him to fall from the effects of the shot. Coming to a turn in the road he left it, probably thereby effecting his escape. He had lost his gun in the scuffle, but took

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another which he carried with him. After going some distance in the woods he lay down expecting to die, but after resting he felt revived, and leaving his gun set out again for Woods fort on Rich creek. When he came to New river he waded it, and by the guidance and assistance of John Woods he was enabled to reach the fort, where he died in a short time, under the full belief that his wife and child had fallen under the tomahawk of the merciless Indians.

"After recovering from the stunning effects of the blow which I had received, I observed my infant lying a short distance from me, which I took into my arms, fondly hoping to afford it a shelter; but all my care was soon arrested by the approach of an Indian, who tore my child from my arms, killed it with a club, and then threw it barbarously on the ground. The child of James Paulee afterwards met with the same fate. The party who went in pursuit of the Indians found the body of my child, which had been protected from the wolves by a little dog that was lying by its side. The body of the other child had been almost entirely destroyed by wolves.

"The five Indians, and one white man named Morgan, who seemed more barbarous than the Indians, after possessing themselves of whatever of the baggage they could conveniently carry, and taking twelve of the horses,

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"The five Indians, and one white man named Morgan, who seemed more barbarous than the Indians, after possessing themselves of whatever of the baggage they could conveniently carry, and taking twelve of the horses, placed me on my horse and Mrs. Paulee on hers and set out. The beds were ripped open, the feathers emptied and the ticking taken. We started up the north fork of East river, an Indian leading my horse. We continued on our way, traveling in the middle of the water for a mile or more, and then went in the direction of the Blue Stone, traveling all day and all night, never stopping until late the next night, when we encamped, our captors taking care to build their fire in a sink hole. I suffered much during those two days, having had repeated falls from my horse, caused by the savage Morgan, who seemed to take a malicious pleasure in cutting my horse and causing him to throw me over his head. I could learn nothing of their purposes but through Morgan, who informed me that they intended to take us to a Shawnee town and make squaws of us. They took no other

precaution to secure us than to place us pretty well in their mist, and taking our shoes, which were returned to us next morning. I frequently thought of attempting to make my escape, but every time I raised my hand an Indian would raise his. I ate nothing for two or three days. The savages seemed desirous that we should partake of whatever they got to eat. Those who killed my child were now kinder than the rest. I had prepared myself with a little dried beef, biscuit and cheese, which I partook of. I also had a bottle of spirits to use in case of sickness, which was still hanging to the horn of my saddle, but becoming alarmed lest they might get drunk and become more barbarous, I loosed it and let it fall in the weeds, where it may remain to this day.

"The next day we continued our route in a westward direction through a wilderness, nothing occurring until we reached the Ohio river, where they placed our saddles in a canoe and crossed it, the Indians swimming beside the horses, and then across to the Scioto, and thence to the Miami. The Scioto we crossed at the old Chillicothe town. We forded the Miami, and came in sight of the Shawnee town, where we camped, and the next morning the Indians gave signal by firing the guns, and giving a peculiar yell, that they had returned with prisoners, plunder and scalps. The object in stopping was to prepare for some ceremonies attending all whose lot it was to be prisoners.

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and one turned upon the first blow and returned it, which pleased the Indians so that he escaped the balance and was adopted. Through the interference of the chief I escaped running the gauntlet, but my fellow-prisoner was forced to undergo it and suffered severely. We were then taken before the council and through an interpreter questioned closely. They inquired particularly if my husband was not a captain, and upon my replying in the negative they cautioned me not to tell a lie, being assured that he was a captain by the courageous manner in which he had behaved. Upon further consultation it was determined that I should be adopted in the family of Wa-ba-kah-kah-to, into which family, having been gifted with the white waumpum belt, I entered. This chief was king of the tribe, and had been at the battle of the Point, where he was wounded. After my adoption Wa-ba-kah-kah-to told me I must be contented, to fear no one, and not to be ordered by any of the women. My greatest and most distressing apprehension was that they should take it into their heads to compel me to marry one of the Indians, and this apprehension was rendered stronger from the conduct of a white female

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"I was likewise further relieved by Simong Girty, who, soon after I was captured, came to see us, and informed us that we need not fear on that score, that they were not the people to compel any one to such a course. The Indian who killed my child seemed particularly desirous to atone for his barbarity, by various acts of kindness, such as sending for me to partake of anything he got. I suffered greatly, more than I otherwise would have done, from being in a delicate condition. I saw McKee and Girty often—the former was a gentlemanly man, and there were Simon, James and George, all three had Indian wives. The Indians thought a great deal of McKee and Girty. There was an Indian chief named Blue Pocket, who had married a

half-French woman of Detroit, who lived in great style, had curtained beds and silver spoons. I was fond of visiting this house; they always seemed kind, and desirous of giving me tea, etc. He had his negro slaves; so had McKee.

"Nothing of moment occurred until the May after my capture, when my little boy was born. An old Indian squaw took a chunk of fire and conducted me to the woods, where I was left alone with nothing but a shelter of bushes over me for the space of ten days, when I was permitted to return to the town. The squaws seemed very much delighted with my child, carrying it through the town, showing it with great joy, seeming to think it a beauty. There was a string of corn brought me and a mortar to pound it in, but luckily a man from Detroit, who had engaged me to make him a shirt, came with a kerchief of flour. About a year after I had been taken I met with a young man named Thomas McGuire, who had previously been taken by the Indians, but got out of their hands by joining a company of rangers, who informed me all about the defeat and death of my husband. Nothing of importance occurred until the summer of 1780, when Col. Clark made his incursion upon the Indians. The Indians knew of Clark's advance from the time he crossed the Ohio, and

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individual who had taken me prisoner and killed my child, agreed upon an expedition into Kentucky for the same purpose that had formerly taken them to Virginia, which expedition terminated by the death of chief Wa-ba-pusito, the son of Wa-ba-kah-kah-to.

"The news of his death was received with sorrowful lamentations by all of the tribes. His father was inconsolable, and required something to appease him for his loss. There had been taken in Kentucky two boys, Jacky Calaway, about 9 years old, and Dicky Hoy, about 12, who were placed with us, and lived in Wa-ba-pusito's house. The old chief, notwithstanding all the partiality he had shown for me, was so grieved by the death of his son that he conceived the horrid idea of avenging his loss by burning within his own house the prisoners he had made, the two boys and myself. I had observed a considerable commotion for several days before I was enabled to ascertain its cause, when by accident as I passed a blacksmith shop, I overheard the white man inquire if 'that was the woman to be burned. This made me inquire, and to my surprise and horror learned that the old chief had resolved upon my destruction. I also learned further, that the greatest exertions had been made to avert our doom; that numbers of Indians had interceded in

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"The old chief, I suppose, finding himself opposed by so many, and so violently, proposed at length that if the interpreter would give him a handsomely mounted rifle which he had in his hand that it would all be forgotten, to which the interpreter immediately acceded, and thus a rifle gun appeased what all argument of prudence or mercy, aided by an acknowledged partiality, failed to effect. After this took place the old chief's manner and treatment was the same. Following the advice of McKee, I disguised my knowledge of what had been in contemplation. The two boys were adopted, and little Jacky Calaway was placed with me.

"I heard through the Indians of Crawford's defeat, capture and death; saw the Indians upon their return from the fight with scalps. The reason they gave for treating Crawford so barbarously was in retaliation for accounts of the death of Cornstalk, and a Shawnee king who had commanded at the battle of the Point, and who had surrendered himself and son as hostages, and were treacherously murdered by Arbuckle's men, who were stationed at the Point. This was contrary to their commander's orders, and done under the pretext that Cornstalk's friends had murdered one Gilmore a short time before. It is

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"The marriage ceremonies among the Shawnees consists in boiling a large vessel of dumplins, which were served out by the chief squaw in small vessels that every guest is expected to bring for the wedding. The dumplins the guest take home and eat, and the day following the bridegroom goes out and kills a deer which he presents to his wife, who takes it to her mother. She gives him bread and he gives her meat. The squaws do the principal part of the courting, the men being for the most part modest even to bashfulness. From the time of his adoption little Jack

Calaway lived with me, and was a great comfort and relief. He had to take his morning plunge with the other Indians, winter and summer, and frequently has he come into the cabin with icicles hanging to his hair. I always had a fire on hand for him.

"Between the period of Crawford's death and the time an attempt to ransom me was made, nothing occurred worth transcribing. I lived as comfortably as one could among savages, and apart from friends without any tolerable probability of ever meeting with them. The hostile feelings between the Shawnees and Americans had not subsided. In the summer of '82 there were strong but ineffectual attempts made to redeem me. The old chief replied to all their proposals that I was not a slave to be sold and that he would not part with me. I was adopted and had become one of his family. A Mr. Higgins, whose generous exertions in my behalf can never be forgotten, tried hard. The old chief's feelings were sincere, and I do not think that any price could have overcome them. Indeed, there seemed on the part of all the Indians, the squaws especially with whom I had been living, an attachment toward me as ardent and affectionate as any I have ever known among my own kindred and friends. My feelings

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Higgins, immediately after the old chief's death, commenced negotiating for my ransom with the son of the old man, into whose custody I had gone, and after a short time succeeded by paying the sum of \$200. Yet there was an obstacle—the Indians were desirous of detaining my child, having taken it into their heads that it was not included in the bargain. A general council of the Shawnees was assembled before which I was summoned and their view made known regarding my child. They alleged that if they were to keep the child they would thereby have a pledge that I would occasionally visit them—to all of which I replied that I would never go without my child, that if it remained I would likewise. After this reply and short consultation, it was announced to me that I should be permitted to go and take my child with me. When I made known my determination to the squaws of leaving, their demonstrations of sorrow at parting with me were truly affecting. Notwithstanding the prospect of again meeting with my friends, I could not but shed tears upon parting with the poor creatures, who seemed so sincerely attached, and I she tears of both joy and sorrow. Poor little Jacky! what would I not have given to have taken him with me, when he was

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"I was taken to Mr. McCormick, where I lived until the following spring when I set out for my home in company with eight other ransomed captives, and had a tedious travel through a wilderness the greater part of the way, during which time we suffered much for the want of something to eat. For three days we had nothing whatever to eat, and my poor child would have died had it not been for the nourishment afforded by a few seeds with which I had provided myself before leaving the Indian settlement. I had the good fortune soon afterwards to secure a pheasant from a hawk, which enable myself and child to stand it better. After eight days we reached Pittsburg, when I was made sensible of the effect of habit, by being placed in a feather bed, in which it was impossible for me to sleep. From Pittsburg home we had a very pleasant journey.

"My son John Paulee grew up with every promise and prospect of

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doing well. He went as secretary to a fur company, and had succeeded in laying in a fine quantity of furs, with which he and the company were descending the Yellow Stone river, when they were attacked by a tribe of Mandan Indians, who murdered nearly all, he being among the number. Little Jacky was redeemed about a year after I left him and came to Kentucky, where he lived to a good old age, and died about eighteen months ago.

"Polly Paulee, my sister-in-law, who belonged to a couple of squaws, succeeded in making her escape about a year before I was redeemed. She had been permitted to go on a visit to Detroit for the purpose of trading, and while there gave them the slip. She was protected by the governor at Detroit, at whose house she afterward married an officer named Myers. This officer tried hard for my redemption. With this man she went to England, and afterwards returned to Georgetown, where she was finally murdered."

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HON. ALLEN T. CAPERTON

To whom was dictated the foregoing narrative, was born in Union, Monroe county, on the 21st day of November, 1810. His ancestors on the paternal side were from England, while those on the maternal side were from the highlands of Scotland. His great grandparents were among the first settlers upon the headwaters of the Great Kanawha—a section of country then overrun by bands of hostile savages, one of which murdered an infant of his grandmother's and carried her into captivity, in which condition she remained for a period of four years.

Hugh Caperton, the father of Allen T., was a man of great ability, the strictest integrity, and commanded great influence in the section of the State in which he resided. He represented his district in the thirteenth congress of the United States, and was an intimate friend and admirer of Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and other leaders of the Whig party to which he belonged.

Mr. Caperton passed his earlier years at Union, where he was taught the rudiments of an English education. At the age of fourteen he went to

Huntsville, Alabama, to attend school, and in company with an elder brother made the long journey on horseback. He afterward attended the University of Virginia, and completed his education at Yale College in 1832, graduating seventh in a class of fifty-five, at the age of twenty-two. In college, as in after life, he was noted for his studious habits, industry and good deportment; though modest and reserved, he was popular with his fellow students and highly esteemed by the faculty.

After leaving college he read law in the office of the late Judge Briscoe Baldwin at Staunton, Virginia, was admitted to the bar in 1832, and began the practice of his chosen profession at his native town, Union. In the year 1841 he was elected a member of the general assembly of Virginia, and in 1844 to the State senate. In one or the other houses at various times until 1860. In 1848 he was a delegate to the national convention which nominated Zachariah Taylor for the presidency. In 1850 he was a delegate to the convention which formed the most liberal constitution Virginia ever had. It was in the year 1862 that he was elected by the assembly of Virginia

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UNION, COUNTY SEAT OF MONROE

The present site of the town was selected by the court in 1799 as the location of the public building. It was made a town by legislative enactment on the 6th day of January, 1800. In Henning's General Statutes for that

year, on page 223, will be found the following:

"Be it enacted by the General Assembly, that twenty-five acres of land, the property of James Alexander, at the court-house in the county of Monroe, as the same has been laid off into lots and streets, shall be established a town by the name of Union; and that William Haynes, John Gray, John Byrneside, James Hanly, Michael Erskine, John Hutchison and Isaac Estill shall be and are hereby constituted trustees thereof."

On the 21st day of August, 1799, these trustess assembled and passed a resolution to the effect that "the size of buildings on each lot must be one square log house, or stone or brick of the same size, of sixteen feet by eighteen feet, from out to out, two stories high of a common height, with a shingle roof and chimney of brick or stone, to be floored and finished in the inside in a workmanlike manner."

Richard Shanklin is said to have been the first merchant; he began business in the year 1800. Henry Alexander and Hugh Caperton, doing business under the firm name of Alexander & Co., were the second, beginning business about the year 1802. The third were Andrew Beirne and George Beirne, doing business as A. & G. Beirne; the fourth was Andrew Beirne, jr., and John Burnside, the latter afterward a millionaire in New

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Richard Shanklin is said to have been the first merchant; he began business in the year 1800. Henry Alexander and Hugh Caperton, doing business under the firm name of Alexander & Co., were the second, beginning business about the year 1802. The third were Andrew Beirne and George Beirne, doing business as A. & G. Beirne; the fourth was Andrew Beirne, jr., and John Burnside, the latter afterward a millionaire in New Orleans; the fifth were Benjamin F. Steele and Madison McDaniel, whose firm name was Steele & McDaniel. They were doing business as late as the year 1840.

It will be seen by reference to the history of the first county court (1779), that James Alexander was granted a license to keep an ordinary at his house, where Union now stands, but the first hotel proper was built by Charles Friend in the year 1802. Six years later, in 1808, Henry Alexander built the second hotel. It still stands and is now known as the Union House, with Cyrus S. McKenzie as proprietor. The first resident minister was the Rev. John McCue, the first Presbyterian preacher in the Greenbrier country. The post office was established in 1800, with James A. Shanklin as postmaster. The office was kept in a small log house which still stands on

the lot now owned by C. A. Shanklin and brothers.

The town was incorporated in 1868, the charter bearing date on the 14th of July of that year. The first officers were Alfred Phillips, mayor; Lewis Callaway, recorder; Andrew Prentice, A. G. Tebbetts, G. W. Davis, John R. Wiseman and William Monroe, councilmen; and D. C. Callaway, sergeant. The present are A. B. Connell, mayor; W. S. Early, recorder; C. A. Shanklin, R. J. Crebbs, Lewis Spangler, C. M. Davis and Dr. J. L. Dunlap, councilmen; and J. L. Fry, sergeant and street commissioner.

There are in the town at present three general mercantile establishments, one grocery and confectionery, two drug stores, one harness shop, one bank, one barber shop, two hotels, one newspaper (*The Border Watchman*), two silversmiths, one shoemaker, one tannery, two blacksmiths, four resident physicians, two resident ministers, ten resident attorneys, one dentist, one cabinet maker and two carpenters.

UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

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UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The church now known as the Union Presbyterian Church was originally known by the name of "Good Hope," and afterwards by that of "Concord," bearing one or the other of these names as long as the congregation worshipped in the first church building. That structure stood about one and a half miles south of the village of Union, in the midst of a grove of towering oaks, over-looking the deep vale through which Indian creek winds its way. It was built of unhewn logs, on a stone foundation, and was about twenty-five feet square. In all probability it was in every respect just like the two houses of worship built by the people of Greenbrier county (of which Monroe was a part) about the same time, which the Rev. Dr. McElheny, in his semi-centennial sermon, described as "made of unhewn logs, covered with clap boards, and the floors laid with pieces of hewn timber, instead of plank. No provision was made for warming them, but when the weather was cold large log fires were kindled in front of the building for the comfort of the congregation."

was erected from the best obtained, it was in 1794.

The majority emigrated from England and were of English descent, who form a portion of the present time settlement. Monroe and made about long after out on the the people visited the early in tradition came from Potomac, visited names of were all definite the precise length of whom they however without meaning and McWay to Alderson church formed the year

After the county of Monroe was formed (1799) and a court-house was erected with a village laid out as a county seat, the log church on Indian creek (just described) was abandoned, and the congregation worshiped in the court-house; when the weather was pleasant, however, and large numbers came together, as was common, particularly on communion occasions, worship was held in a shady grove of large sugar maples adjacent to the village.

In the year 1875 the ruins of this church were visited by Dr. S. R. Houston, in company with George W. Hutchinson, one of the deacons of the present organization, who found them without difficulty amid their romantic surroundings. The precise time when it was erected cannot be ascertained, but from the best information now to be obtained, it was erected about the year 1794.

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The majority of the early settlers emigrated from the valley of Virginia, and were generally of "Scotch-Irish" descent, with a goodly number of English and Germans, whose posterity form a respected and influential portion of the community at the present time. The first permanent settlement within the present limits of Monroe and Greenbrier counties was made about the year 1769, and not long after this event missionaries came out on the frontier and labored among the people. When Dr. McElheny first visited this country, which was very early in the present century, the tradition was that a Mr. Crawford, who came from the south branch of the Potomac, was the first minister who visited the Greenbrier valley. The names of Frazier Read and others were also mentioned, but nothing definite has ever been ascertained as to the precise period of their labors, the length of time they remained, or by whom they were sent. Their ministry, however, seems to not have been without gratifying results. In the meantime the ministers of the Baptist and Methodist churches found their way to this section, and the Rev. John Alderson, of the former, organized a church in 1781, while the latter formed the old "Rehoboth" church in the year 1786.

The Rev. John McCue organized the church now called Union in the year 1783 (it was then called Good Hope), on Indian creek. Mr. McCue was licensed to preach the gospel by "old Hanover Presbytery," at Timber Ridge Church, May 22, 1782. He preached his sermon for ordination at "Old Monmouth," May 20, 1783, and the ordination services were ordered to take place in the congregation of "Camp Union" (now Lewisburg) and "Good Hope," on the first Wednesday of August, 1783, Mr. Hodge to preach the sermon, Mr. McConnel to preside, and Mr. Crawford to give the charge; Mr. Scott and Mr. Houston were also appointed to attend.

Mr. McCue was one of the twelve ministers that constituted Lexington Presbytery at its organization on the 26th of September, 1786. September 20, 1791, he was released from the churches of Greenbrier, of which Monroe was then a part. As a pioneer minister, his name should be held in remembrance with those of Revs. Wilson, Crawford and Montgomery. Mr. McCue was succeeded in the pastorate of the Union church by the Rev. Benjamin Grigsby in the year 1794.

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It was in the year 1808 that the celebrated Dr. McElheny was installed pastor of this and the Lewisburg churches. He was licensed by Lexington Presbytery February 11, 1808, at New Providence church, in Rockbridge county, of which the Rev. Samuel Brown was pastor. Dr. McElheny preached his first sermon in the house of William Haynes, in the gap—now the residence of Mrs. R. McNutt—and the second in the court-house at Union. He continued to be the pastor of the Union church from 1808 to 1835—a period of nearly twenty-seven years—during all of which time his regular appointments were at Union and various points in the neighborhood of Mount Pleasant, among them the private residences of James Murdock and George Kinkaid. During Dr. McElheny's pastorate he

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On the 26th day of October, 1842, the Rev. Samuel R. Houston was elected a stated supply. He had spent several years as a missionary in Greece and Turkey, laboring under the direction of the American board of foreign missions, and having been prevented from returning to the East to a more distant field—Persia—the way was open for his acceptance of a call to labor with the Union and Mount Pleasant churches, a field he has been occupying for a period of forty-one years. During this portion of his pastorate, before the division of the Union church, 269 members were added, and since that event the names of 107 more have been placed upon the church register. In the forty-one years of the pastor's ministry, he has never been kept out of the pulpit but in three solitary instances.

Mrs. Annie E. Randolph, of this church, is now a missionary at Hanchow, China, and Miss Janet Hay Houston, daughter of the pastor, is connected with the Matamoras mission in Mexico. The present elders are Benjamin Grigsby Dunlap, Dr. Walter Douglass, Andrew H. Houston, F. D. Wheelright and Samuel A. Houston. The deacons are George W. Hutchinson and William Steele.

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THE GREENBRIER BAPTIST CHURCH

Every student of American church history must read the story of this organization with the deepest interest, for the reason that it is believed to have been the first Protestant church formed west of the Alleghany mountains. It had an existence four years before the settlement at Marietta, the oldest in Ohio, and ten years before the French settled at Galipolis.

It dates its institution on the 24th day of November, 1781—102 years ago. On that day the Rev. John Alderson, together with his wife and ten other persons, met at a point on the bank of Greenbrier river, opposite the present site of the town of Alderson, and when they adjourned the work was done, and the first

pioneer church had an existence. The first house of worship was erected in the year 1783, and stood upon the site of the present church building, the fourth at the same place. In the ensuing nineteen years three other churches were organized, and in 1802 they, together with the present one, united, and formed what has ever since been known as the Greenbrier Association, which at the time numbered 4 churches, 3 ordained ministers, and 214 members, 39 of which belonged to the Greenbrier church. In the next few years many accessions were made, but in consequence of emigration to the West the clear increase in membership was inconsiderable.

In 1812 there were 12 churches belonging to the association, which now numbered 6 ordained ministers and 339 members; but in this year the Teays Valley Association was formed, by which the Greenbrier was left with but five churches, among them the parent with 42 members. In 1820 two other churches were formed, the nucleus of both being taken from the Greenbrier church, leaving it but 30 members. One of these (the Indian Creek Church) became anti-missionary, and ceased to be a part of Greenbrier Association.

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On the 2nd day of March, 1821, the Rev. John Alderson, after a short illness, passed from among the living. All that was mortal of him now reposes in the quiet church-yard. Above his tomb has been reared an appropriate slab, but his most lasting monument is the old church, founded by himself, by the side of the little river, and which he served faithfully for more than forty years. He was succeeded by the Rev. James Ellison, and from this date frequent changes occur in the pastorate. Elder Robert Tisdale preached for the church a short time; then the name of James O. Alderson appears as pastor. His death occurred, probably, in 1832. Then Elders John Spotts, Edwin Woodson, William C. Ligan, A. Freeman and V. Mason appear to have preached occasionally during the years 1832-3. In 1834 Elder James Ellison died, and Lewis A. Alderson was ordained and chosen to the pastorate. Nearly a quarter of a century ago he removed to Atchison City, Kansas, where he organized the

first Baptist Church in that city, and erected their first house of worship at his own expense.

The church grew as years passed away, and in 1835 the membership was 123 white and 15 colored, a total of 138, and in 1840 it reported the names of 145 members. The following shows the names of the pastors and also the accessions for the past forty years: From 1840 to 1850 L. A. Alderson baptized 46, E. W. Woodson, 2, W. G. Margrove 8, M. Ellison 7, James Remley 67, H. J. Chandler 50—a total of 179 additions to the church. In the next ten years, from 1850 to 1860, L. A. Alderson baptized 49, W. G. Margrove 29, M. T. Bibb 120, S. Livermore 2—a total of 200. From 1860 to 1870, M. Ellison baptized 60, William Fisher 48, John Bragg 8, T. Givens 78—total of 189. In the last decade, from 1870 to 1880, T. Givens baptized 84, W. K. Williams 9 (who went to form the members of the Blue Sulphur Church), Bolus Cade 6—total 69.

From the foregoing it will be seen that in the last forty years 658 persons have been added by baptism alone, and that during the 102 years of its existence nearly 2,000 have held membership in it. This church was organized when the scream of wild beasts and wilder men was heard along the banks of the river and among the mountains amid which it was founded. The present membership is 217, and the Rev. M. Ellison is the present pastor.

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REV. JOHN ALDERSON

The pioneer preacher and founder of the above church, the first in the Greenbrier valley, deserves more than a passing notice. His father, the Rev. John Alderson, sr., was a native of Yorkshire, England. Early in life he was about to form a matrimonial relation displeasing to his father, who, for the purpose of preventing it, furnished the son a horse and money and induced the son to travel to England. This he did, but after disposing of the horse and spending all the money he had, he, without his father's knowledge, sailed for America. Upon his arrival in this country, the captain of the vessel in which he came over sold him out to defray the

expense of his passage. He was purchased by a farmer named Curtiss, who resided in New Jersey. Here he behaved so well that at the expiration of his term of service he married his master's daughter. Soon after, he entered the ministry, and was for a time stationed at Germantown, Pennsylvania, from which place he removed to Rockingham county, Virginia, where he was connected with the Lynville Creek Church. He died in 1781, the same year in which his son, the subject of this sketch, founded the Greenbrier Church. His forty years ministry and triumphant death, in 1821, have already been noticed.

At the time of his first visit to Greenbrier country, he was accompanied by his brother-in-law, William Morris, and both had patents for 1,200 acres of land. They decided to locate their lands in the vicinity of the present town of Alderson, but upon investigation found that Samuel Lewis had received a patent for and had located a large tract just below where the town now stands. Mr. Alderson could not find the northern boundary of the Lewis lands, and he made his survey so as to include the bottom lands just below Alderson, and extending some distance up the river, above where the town now stands. He afterwards learned that his grant "strayed," or lapped over on the Lewis lands, and he accordingly extended his further into the mountains, so as to include the 1,200 acres. Mr. Morris crossed over to the west side of the river and there located his lands and chose the site of his future home, but Mr. Alderson chose his cabin immediately on the opposite bank on the exact spot on which stands the line of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad now stands.

Classical School. He then entered Dickinson College, at Pennsylvania, and was graduated from that institution on the 3rd of May, 1825. Soon after his graduation he became an instructor in the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, at Philadelphia, in which he continued about six years. In 1831 he entered the theological school at Princeton, New Jersey, the same year, when the Asiatic cholera first made its appearance, and he, with other Southern students, removed to the Union Theological Seminary, at Richmond, Virginia.

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REV. SAMUEL R. HOUSTON

Another eminent minister of the Gospel in Monroe deserves mention—the Rev. S. R. Houston. He was born at Rural Valley, Rockbridge county, Virginia, March 12, 1806. Until the age of sixteen he was under the tuition of his father, the Rev. Samuel Houston, in the Rural Valley

Classical School. He then entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and was graduated from that institution on the 3rd day of July, 1825. Soon after his graduation he became an instructor in the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, at Philadelphia, in which capacity he continued about six years. In 1831, he entered the theological seminary at Princeton, New Jersey, and remained a year, when the Asiatic cholera made its appearance, and he, together with other Southern students, went to the Union Theological Seminary, in Virginia.

He was licensed to preach in 1834, and on the 17th of January following he was ordained at Staunton, Virginia, to labor as an Evangelist under the direction of the American board of commissioners for foreign missions, he having tendered his services to that body before leaving college, and having been assigned to a field in Asia Minor (Old Kaiscriah), along with Rev. John B. Adger, of Charleston, South Carolina. At Boston, in Essex Street Church, August 17, 1834, they received their commission and instructions from the prudential committee of the board. At the same time Lorenzo W. Pease, of New York, was sent to the Island of Cyprus, and Rev. James L. Merrick, of Massachusetts, to Persia.

Mr. Houston, a student at Boston, his

Carolina. At Boston, in Essex Street Church, August 17, 1834, they received their commission and instructions from the prudential committee of the board. At the same time Lorenzo W. Pease, of New York, was sent to the Island of Cypress, and Rev. James L. Merrick, of Massachusetts, to Persia.

Mr. Houston sailed and began his missionary work as a helper for the Greek mission on the island of Scio, on the 8th of November, 1835. Here he continued to labor for the space of two and one half years, meeting with the most violent opposition from both the Greek and Catholic Christians. At last the Greek patriarch forbade the instruction of all children by foreign teachers, but just then Mr. Houston was invited by a Greek chieftain named Mavromichalis, to remove from Scio to "Free Greece" and establish a mission among the Spartans in the province of Laconia in the Morea or Peloponnesus. This invitation was accepted by our missionary who at once repaired to Areopolis, the capital of Laconia, where he established a mission school, the effects of which are yet visible after a lapse of nearly half a century. After remaining here three or four years, he was forced by the ill health of his family to abandon the work for a

time; this he did and went to Athens, where one of his children died. He then sought a more congenial clime and removed to Egypt, where for six months he preached in the chapel of the British consulate at Alexandria; but at last the worst was realized, and his wife died at Cairo, in that far off land.

Mr. Houston then returned to Greece and once more entered upon his work, but at the end of one and a half years his only remaining child was attacked with what was pronounced an incurable malady, and he was advised to bring it to America and place it under the care of relatives. This he did, returning by way of the island of Malta, and Marseilles in France, and reaching his home in Virginia, in August, 1841. He never returned to his foreign field, but how he accepted a call from the Union Church, and how nobly he has carried forward the work so nobly begun by McCue, Grisby and Dr. McElheny, has been told in the history of that church.

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MONROE COUNTY IN THE CIVIL WAR

The first settlers of Monroe were men tried and true; men many of whom had spent their lives in the hot bed of Indian warfare. Some were with Lewis at Point Pleasant in 1774; others were with Gates and Greene at Camden, Kings mountain, and Guilford Court House, while others still were with Washington at White Plains, Trenton, Brandywine, and many other bloody fields of the Revolution. They grew old, and their posterity, as all sat around the evening fire, listened to their recitals of struggles fierce and wild. These were treasured and transmitted from generation to generation, and with them descended that spirit of patriotism and love of country which actuated the sons of Virginia a century before.

When in 1861, the storm of the civil war swept over the land, and the Old Dominion was fast becoming one great battle field, then it was that the sons of Monroe—descended from the soldiers of a bygone age, were ready and many of them hastened to enroll their names and shoulder arms in defense of their native State. Several companies now mustered and hastened to the front.

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Whether they were soldiers in the truest sense of the word let their record answer. The first organization which left the county, was the.

MONROE GUARDS, COMPANY D, 27TH VIRGINIA INFANTRY

This company was organized in 1859, soon after the John Brown raid at Harper's Ferry, and when the tocsin of war sounded through their native mountains the men composing it were ready and at once marched to the seat of war. We here append a partial list and record of the company so far as it could be ascertained.

Hugh S. Tiffany, captain, killed at first battle of Manassas; Joseph Zoll, first lieutenant; Joseph G. Wiley, second lieutenant, wounded at first battle of Manassas; Henry F. Mitchell, third lieutenant; William Hinton; Wiley Wingfield, killed at first battle of Manassas; Robert Camp, killed at first Manassas; Robert Sams, John Conner, killed at first Manassas; Robert Hamilton, killed at first Manassas; Davidson Shanklin, died at Culpeper Court House from wounds received at first Manassas; John A. Lynch, wounded in thigh at first Manassas; Archibald Campbell, killed at first

Wyley Wingfield, killed at first battle of Manassas; Robert Camp, killed at first Manassas; Robert Sams, John Conner, killed at first Manassas; Robert Hamilton, killed at first Manassas; Davidson Shanklin, died at Culpeper Court House from wounds received at first Manassas; John A. Lynch, wounded in thigh at first Manassas; Archibald Campbell, killed at first Manassas; Charles A. Shanklin, wounded in left hand at first Manassas; James L. Lynch, wounded in the head at first Manassas; William H. Jennings, wounded in leg at first Manassas; Green Rutledge, wounded in shoulder at first Manassas; Andrew Taylor, wounded in face at Manassas; Charles Tiffany, wounded in hip and a second time in the thigh while being carried off the field at Manassas; Lewis C. Hall; George W. Hall, killed at Cold Harbor, Virginia; Harvey Neal, Cyrus F. Neal, Allen Neal, William Beamer; William McNutt, wounded in the neck at Chancellorsville, Virginia; William Young; Samuel Windel, afterward killed near Richmond, while in artillery service; Richard L. McCartney, wounded in groin at Richmond; William Persinger; Dr. John Patton, died at Aldea, Virginia, of wounds received at first Manassas; William Patton, wounded in the hand at first Manassas; M. P. Diddle, Thomas Frist, Thomas Parks, Abram Frist, A. M. Shanklin, E. L. Shanklin, John Tiffany,

Henry L. Shanklin, Joseph Ford, James Bicket, John A. Wilson, John Fry, William Jones; Lewis A. Lynch, wounded at first Manassas; Eldridge Bostwick, George Scott, Lewis A. Crebs; Frank Wilson, captain of the company after the reorganization, and wounded at Monacacy junction; Frederick Freeman, James Hanly, William Shirey, William J. Whitcomb, taken prisoner at Fisherville, Virginia, and confined in Fort Delaware; William Steel, Hugh Caperton, John M. Alexander, Patrick Cavenaugh; James W. McGhan, wounded in breast and hand at second Manassas; George T. Lynch, Lorenzo McGee, William A. Young (Mountain Bill), Jacob H. Dunsmore, M. L. Conrad, William McDaniel, William Tiffany, William L. Sanders; George W. Foster, wounded in leg at first Manassas; B. A. Hall, William Hall, Joseph Tiffany, Lewis Criner, L. F. Cook, A. N. Nickell, J. M. Nickell, Addison Leach, Preston Leach, John C. Beamer, F. H. Brown, William Carper, John Buckner, Michael Foster, and William Beamer. The two last named were awarded the laurel wreath as being the bravest men in the 27th regiment.

Nickell, Addison Leach, F. H. Brown, William John C. Beamer, F. H. Brown, William Carper, John Buckner, Michael Foster, and William Beamer. The two last named were awarded the laurel wreath as being the bravest men in the 27th regiment.

BRYAN'S BATTERY

Was enlisted in Monroe. It was so called because it was commanded by Captain T. A. Byran, now of Baltimore. It went to Lewisburg early in 1862, when it was regularly mustered into the service by General Heath. We here give the names of eighty-two of the members composing it: Captain, T. A. Byran; A. N. Campbell, Alexander Sydnor, William Steele, J. D. McCartney, C. A. Shanklin, C. M. Davis, Daniel Devine, J. A. Wallace, H. B. Long, G. W. Bugg, J. A. Lynch, M. S. Erskine, M. M. Kersinger, A. Y. Leach, William Fuller, Alexander Smith, L. D. Meredith, G. T. Nicke.,, B. F. Irons, M. Bicket, C. Dunbar, D. W. Foster, D. C. Campbell, Preston Clarke, Alexander Bland, C. Leach, W. Y. Irons, W. H. H. Campbell, William Leach, Edward Campbell, George Young, James Dooley, William Parker, Charles Vass, Alexander Boyd, George Branham, John W. Graves, Richard Thomas, M. L. Connell, George Boyd, A. M. Shanklin, John W.

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Wallace, William Wallace, James
Kesinger, William Carter, A. A.
McColister, James Clarke, Preston
Parker, Robert Parker, George Allen,
Thomas Murrell, Charles Murrell, John
Rusk, Mason Rusk, J. Howell, Milton
Humphries, A. Humphreys, Charles
Obenchaine, John A. Francis, William
Francis, Hugh Caperton; George Parris,
killed at Cloyds mountain; Dennis
Kelly, killed at Cloyds
mountain;—Cresier, killed at New River
bridge; Andrew Dolan, killed at Cloyds
mountain; M. Dolan, Andrew
Tomlinson, Joseph Tomlinson, John
Sims, Jasper Tabler, Lieutenant Tabler,
H. Branham, Lieutenant Folks, John
Lewis, Timothy Ryley, Edward
Collins, James Carroll and Joshua
Leach, killed at Lewisburg, West
Virginia.

NEWSPAPERS, LODGES, ETC., OF MONROE COUNTY,

The first newspaper established in the county was the *Union Republican*, which made its appearance in the year 1850. It was published by John W. Patterson, and after a short life of two years it suspended for want of patronage.

The second venture in the field of journalism was that of Charles McL. Johnston, who, in April, 1852, began the publication of a paper which he named *The Farmer's Friend and Fireside Companion*. He issued it until 1853, when he sold it to William Hinton, who changed the name to that of *The Mountain Orator*, and who published it until 1854, when he sold it to a joint stock company composed of General A. A. Chapman, C. J. Birne, and others, which continued its publication under the editorial management of Stewart I. Warren. The company changed the name to that of the *Union Democrat*. At the end of a year Mr. Warren was succeeded in the management by George W. Clark, and he repaired to Lewisburg, where he founded the *Lewisburg Chronicle*. After a short time, Mr. Clark yielded the editorial pen to Samuel W. Wendel, who continued the paper until 1861, when the war came on and it suspended.

Soon after the suspension of the last-named, the office material passed

into the possession of John McCreery, whose son Thomas, a deaf mute, in 1867 began the publication of the third paper, which he called the *Monroe Register*. In 1869 Richard Burk purchased a half interest in the office, and soon after became sole proprietor. He changed it to a Republican organ and continued to issue it regularly in 1881, when he removed the office to Hinton, the county seat of Summers, where it is now published under the name of the *Hinton Republican*.

The fourth paper published in the county was the *Monroe Republican*, the first number of which appeared in the early part of the year 1867. Alexander Humphrey was proprietor and Cyrus Newlon and William A. Monroe were the editors. It suspended in 1870, and the material was purchased by Burk, of the *Register*.

The fifth was *The Border Watchman*; it was started in 1871 by Elbert Fowler, who published it until 1874, when he sold it to A. C. Houston, who in turn soon after disposed of it to Charles McL. Johnston, who published until his death, in 1880, at which time his son, Albert Sidney Johnston, assumed the management of the paper and still

Elbert Fowler, who published it until 1874, when he sold it to A. C. Houston, who in turn soon after disposed of it to Charles McL. Johnston, who published until his death, in 1880, at which time his son, Albert Sidney Johnston, assumed the management of the paper and still continues it.

On the 1st day of February, 1879, the initial number of a weekly paper made its appearance at Alderson, under the name of *The Alderson Enterprise*. The editor and proprietor was John N. Ferguson, late of Virginia. On the 1st day of September 1882, J. A. D. Turner became sole proprietor and changed the name to that of *The Alderson Statesman*. He continued it until the winter of 1882-3, when C. L. Peck purchased a half interest. In August, 1883, John M. Ferguson bought the remaining half share of Mr. Turner, and the paper now makes its weekly visits to its patrons under the management of C. L. Peck, publisher, and J. M. Ferguson, editor.

MONROE LODGE, NO. 77 A. F. & A. M.

Located at Union, began work under a dispensation from the grand lodge of Virginia in 1845, and was regularly chartered by that body as

Located under a chart of Virginia on A. L. 5852, officers were priest; John John Ross, in 1874.

ALDERS

Located under a chart of West V 5875, A. members Alderson, S. A. McD. E. Smithson, John Blak Barksdale. Mayo, W. and S. R. are Tay Campbell, W.; S. R. secretary; Boyd, J.

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Union Lodge, No. 12, on the 11th day
of December, A. L. 5849, A. D. 1849.
The first officers under the charter
were William W. Spencer, W. M.;
Charles Baldwin, S. W., and Jacob Zoll,
J. W. After the war this lodge returned
its charter to the grand lodge of
Virginia, and on the 13th day of
November, A. L. 5879, A. D. 1879,
received one from the grand lodge of
West Virginia, by which its number was
changed from 12 to 77. Under this
charter the first officers were Andrew
H. Johnston, W. M.; Michael A. Steele,
S. W., and Henry S. Shanklin, J. W.
The present officers are William H.
Sydnor, W. M.; J. D. McCartney, S. W.;
J. M. Rowan, J. W.; Henry Robinson,
treasurer; J. L. Dunlap, secretary; C. S.
McKenzie, S. D.; R. A. Boyd, J. D.,
and W. J. Whitcomb, tyler. Present
membership, 32.

DOVE CHAPTER, NO. 37

R. A. M.

Located at Union, was instituted
under a charter from the grand lodge
of Virginia on the 25th day of January,
A. L. 5852, A. D. 1852. The first
officers were Joel McPherson, high
priest; John M. Alderson, king, and
John Ross, scribe. It suspended work
in 1874.

ALDERSON LODGE, NO. 70, A. F. & A. M.

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priest; John M. Alderson, king, and
John Ross, scribe. It suspended work
in 1874.

ALDERSON LODGE, NO. 70, A. F. & A. M.

Located at Alderson, was instituted
under a charter from the grand lodge
of West Virginia, March 25, A. L.
5875, A. D. 1875. The charter
members were J. P. Mayo, George
Alderson, S. R. Hill, A. E. T. Scruggs,
A. McD. Browning, B. F. Irons, T. L.
Smithson, A. J. Ware, J. A. Gortner,
John Blaker, William Boa and W. L.
Barksdale. The first officers were J. P.
Mayo, W. M.; George Alderson, S. W.,
and S. R. Hill, J. W. The present ones
are Taylor Mann, W. M.; L. C.
Campbell, S. W. W.; J. G. Lobbon, J.
W.; S. R. Hill, treasurer; J. P. Patton,
secretary; W. C. Kunkle, S. D.; George
Boyd, J. D., and J. A. Gortner, tyler.

ROCKY POINT LODGE, NO. 61, A. F. & A. M.

Located at the village of Rocky
Point, seven miles north of Union, was

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organized under a charter from the grand lodge of West Virginia in August, A. L. 5873, A. D. 1873. The present officers are W. L. Cornell, W. M.; J. A. Godwin, S. W.; William Shields, J. W.; W. J. Slonaker, treasurer; W. S. Stroman, secretary; B. S. Cook, S. D.; C. H. Burdett, J. D., and W. P. Boyer, tyler.

DOVE LODGE, A. F. & A. M.

Located at Peterstown, was organized under a dispensation on the 6th day of February, A. L., 5868, A. D. 1868, at Grey Sulphur Springs, and received its charter a year later, at which time the officers were H. B. Barbour, W. M.; H. C. Byrnsides, S. W., and L. C. Hale, J. W. The present membership is 35.

BANK OF UNION

Was chartered on the 25th day of January, 1873. The incorporators were Frank Hereford, A. H. Johnston,

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BANK OF UNION

Was chartered on the 25th day of January, 1873. The incorporators were Frank Hereford, A. H. Johnston, Henry M. Mathews, Stewart I. Warren, Samuel A. Clark, M. J. Kester, A. P. Beirne, J. E. Keenan, Lewis Caperton, R. J. Glendy and H. G. Davis. The first meeting was held on the 14th day of April, 1873, and Frank Hereford was elected president and A. H. Johnston cashier. Both continue in the respective offices, with W. M. Johnston assistant cashier. The present directors are Frank Hereford, A. H. Johnston, John B. Hereford, John A. Nickell and J. D. Logan; capital stock, \$37,800. A general exchange and discount business is transacted.

SUCCESSION OF THE CLERK'S OFFICES

It will be remembered that Monroe was formed from a part of the territory of Greenbrier, and for several years prior to the organization of the new county an effort was made by the voters then residing within its present limits to elect a delegate to the general assembly, who would secure the passage of a bill providing for their separation from Greenbrier. For this purpose John Hutchinson was several

constitution of West Howell was elected the office until 1 Calloway served two to 1871, when he was succeeded by G. Tebbetts, who served until 1873, at which time under the new constitution James Carr was elected county clerk and G. Tebbetts, who served until 1873, at which time J. Kester succeeded A. Nickell was elected. They are the present

DISTRICT SECOND CLERK

This is the most southern part of the county. It is bounded on the north by Greenbrier, on the northeast by Fayette, on the southeast by Marion, on the south by Upshur, on the southwest by Kanawha. The surface is hilly and mountainous, but is fertile and well adapted to tillage. The Second Creek is a tributary of the Laurel creek,

The first settlers in the district were John Nickell and his wife, whom came from Virginia. They obtained possession of the land, and he selected a site for his home over that selected by his wife, known as "the hollow." They were followed by McDowell, McRae, and Richard

times put forward as a candidate, but as often defeated. At length, however, he went to Richmond, and succeeded in "lobbying" the bill through, and upon the meeting of the first court the justices gave him the clerkship in reward for his services.

He filled the office until the year 1808, when his son Isaac Hutchinson succeeded him, and continued to discharge the duties of the office for a period of twenty-five years, or until 1833. Then John Hutchinson, a brother of the latter, became clerk, and continued as such until 1852, when George W. Hutchinson, a son of Isaac, entered the office and remained until 1865, when, under the first constitution of West Virginia, James E. Howell was elected recorder, and held the office until 1867. Then Lewis Calloway served two terms, from 1867 to 1871, when he was succeeded by A. G. Tebbetts, who remained in office until 1873, at which time an election under the new constitution was held, and James Campbell was elected county clerk and M. J. Kester circuit clerk. Both served until 1878, when M. J. Kester succeeded himself and Allen A. Nickell was elected county clerk. They are the present incumbents.

and James Campion was elected county clerk and M. J. Kester circuit clerk. Both served until 1878, when M. J. Kester succeeded himself and Allen A. Nickell was elected county clerk. They are the present incumbents.

DISTRICT HISTORY SECOND CREEK DISTRICT

This is the most northern division of the county. It is bounded on the north by Greenbrier county, east and southeast by Sweet Spring district, south by Union, and west and southwest by Wolf Creek district. The surface is hilly but not rough, the soil is fertile and the greater part is well adapted to tillage. The only stream is the Second creek and its small tributaries, the principal of which is Laurel creek, flowing in from the east.

The first settlers within the limits of the district were John Nickell, Andrew Nickell and Robert Campbell, all of whom came about the year 1780, each obtained possession of a large tract of land, and how well they made their selection, let any one who has traveled over that section of the district—now known as Pickaway Plains—answer. They were soon joined by Archibald McDowell, William Pritt, Robert Knox and Richard Humphreys, all of whom

were recently from Ireland. Then came James Scott, James Miller, John Lemons, Charles Carr, James Steele, James Dunsmore, James Murdock, Joseph Dunsmore, Christopher Hoke, and Nicholas Lake—all from Scotland.

The first grist mill was built about the year 1785 by Frederick Gromer. It was a rude log building, with a single run of buhrs, upon which were ground both corn and wheat, but the latter was not bolted. Mr. Gromer ultimately sold it to James Nickell, who rebuilt it, added new machinery, and then sold it to James M. Nickell, who, after running it for many years, in turn sold it to James Humphrey, who carries on the business at present. Mr. Gromer, about the year 1788, erected a powder mill, and for years supplied the surrounding country with powder. On a certain occasion he sent a colored woman and boy to the mill to see about some matter; it was dark and they unthoughtedly entered with a lighted candle, the powder ignited and the report of the explosion rang out among the mountains, the building was torn to atoms, the boy killed instantly and the woman died a few days later from injuries received. A man named Robert Patton was afterward killed by an explosion in the same mill. Mr. Gromer also erected the first saw mill ever built within the present limits of the district.

Tradition says that the first school was taught in the year 1795 in a log cabin which stood near the present site of James M. Nickell's mill, the teacher being a man named Samuel Harper. The building was of round logs, a clapboard roof held in place by ridge poles, and the floor made of thick slabs or puncheons. There are at present nine white and one colored schools, in which 395 white and 50 colored pupils are taught the rudiments of an English education.

The settlement of the Rev. J. Alderson and his brother-in-law, William Morris, has already been noticed. Thomas Smithson, another brother-in-law, was probably the settler in the district. He came a two years after the first named reared his cabin just over the probably one mile distant, southerly direction, from the town of Alderson. Wilson another very early settler, built a cabin on the summit of the mountain overlooking the town, near the site of the residence of Alderson, Esq. Other early settlers were James Hardy, John Thomas Alford, Jackson Alford, John Hall. James Hardy was hunting and was discovered by a band of Indians, who at once captured him; he ran more than a mile and finally distanced his pursuers. The country over which he ran was for many years known as "Hardy Run."

The first grist mill was built in 1803, and had a capacity of about twenty bushels per hour. The first saw mill was built by Haynes in 1806. It was a primitive affair having a capacity of from 10 to 15 feet per day. The first school was taught in 1797 by James Harper, the second by John Hall. The organization of the first school has not been noticed in the general history of the county.

THE TOWN OF ALFORD

Derives its name from the Alford family, in whose possession the land on which it stands was held for nearly a hundred years. It is bounded on the north by the Ohio River and directly on the south bank of the river. The town was surveyed and platted by Elliott Vawter, ex-surveyor of Harrison County and a native of Virginia.

the among the mountains, the building was torn to atoms, the boy killed instantly and the woman died a few days later from injuries received. A man named Robert Patton was afterward killed by an explosion in the same mill. Mr. Gromer also erected the first saw mill ever built within the present limits of the district.

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WOLF CREEK DISTRICT

Lies in the extreme northwestern part of the county and takes its name from the principal stream. It is bounded on the north by Greenbrier county, northeast by Second Creek district, east by Union, south by Springfield, and west by Summers county.

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and. Then came Miller, John James Steele, James Murdock, Stephen Hoke, from Scotland. was built about Dick Gromer. It with a single h were ground out the latter her ultimately who rebuilt it, d then sold it who, after in turn sold no carries on Mr. Gromer, ed a powder applied the powder. On t a colored mill to see s dark and red with a ignited and on rang out building was ed instantly days later man named d killed by mill. Mr. first saw mill at limits of first school 95 in a log present site the teacher

The settlement of the Rev. John Alderson and his brother-in-law, William Morris, has already been noticed. Thomas Smithson, another brother-in-law, was probably the third settler in the district. He came about two years after the first named and reared his cabin just over the ridge, probably one mile distant, in a southerly direction, from the present town of Alderson. Wilson Jones, another very early settler, built his cabin on the summit of the mountain, overlooking the town, near the present site of the residence of George Alderson, Esq. Other early settlers were James Hardy, John Alford, Thomas Alford, Jackson Alford and John Hall. James Hardy was once out hunting and was discovered by a roving band of Indians, who at once pursued him; he ran more than a mile and finally distanced his pursuers. The scope of country over which he passed was for many years known as "Hardy's Run."

The first grist mill was built in 1803, and had a capacity for grinding about twenty bushels per day. Joseph Haynes built the first saw mill in the year 1806. It was a primitive affair, having a capacity of from 400 to 500 feet per day. The first school was taught in 1797 by James Taylo, and the second by John Walker. The organization of the first church has been noticed in the general history of the county.

Haynes built the first saw mill in the year 1806. It was a primitive affair, having a capacity of from 400 to 500 feet per day. The first school was taught in 1797 by James Taylo, and the second by John Walker. The organization of the first church has been noticed in the general history of the county.

THE TOWN OF ALDERSON

Derives its name from the Alderson family, in whose possession the land on which it stands was for nearly a hundred years. It is beautifully situated on the south bank of Greenbrier river, and directly on the line of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway. The town was surveyed and platted in 1871 by Elliott Vawter, ex-surveyor of lands for Monroe county and ex-member of the West Virginia State senate. George W. Nickell purchased the first lot, M. L. Harwood the second, J. J. Hughs the third and Abram E. T. Scruggs the fourth. M. L. Harwood built the first dwelling and was the first shoemaker. J. J. Hughs was the first blacksmith after the town was laid out, but many years before there had been a shop on

the lot now the property of Jesse Jones, and at present occupied by the store-house of his son, Andrew J. Jones. The first hotel was built in 1872. It is now the property of John W. Alderson. Dr. Benjamin F. Irons was the first physician after the founding of the town, but Dr. Thomas G. Clay had resided and practiced in the vicinity many years before. Lewis F. Watts was the first merchant; A. E. T. Scruggs was the second, he began business in 1871; George W. Nickell and L. T. Dickey, doing business under the firm name was changed to Nickell & Jones. Morgan Conner and B. F. Jones were the first druggists. B. A. Knapp was the first jeweler, and W. L. Lynch the first resident minister. The first church building (Presbyterian) was began in 1873 and completed in 1875.

The town was incorporated in October, 1880, at which time the first officers were as follows: Mayor, A. E. T. Scruggs; recorder, George Alderson; councilmen, William Boa, W. L. Barksdale, J. L. Fainer, J. G. Loban and C. W. Vandergrift; marshal, I. E. Bare. The present ones are: Mayor, S. R. Hill; recorder, A. J. Jones; councilmen, M. M. Ogg, Tayler Mann, C. W. Vandergrift, George W. Pleasants and Dr. J. B. Speer; marshal, I. E. Bare; street commissioner, William Boa.

Is bounded on the north by Wolf Creek, Union and Sweet Spring

officers were T. Scruggs, recorder, George Alderson; councilmen, William Boa, W. L. Barksdale, J. L. Fainer, J. G. Loban and C. W. Vandergrift; marshal, I. E. Bare. The present ones are: Mayor, S. R. Hill; recorder, A. J. Jones; councilmen, M. M. Ogg, Taylor Mann, C. W. Vandergrift, George W. Pleasants and Dr. J. B. Speer; marshal, I. E. Bare; street commissioner, William Boa.

Is bounded on the north by Wolf Creek, Union and Sweet Spring districts; east by Giles county, Virginia; south by Red Sulphur Springs district, and west by Summers county. Indian creek is the principal stream because of the incidents occurring upon its banks it is inseparably connected with the pioneer history of this region. It was here that, with the exception of the Big Levels about Lewisburg, the first settlements in Southwestern Virginia. It was here, in the year 1770, that Adam Mann, Jacob Mann, Valentine Cook, John Miller, George Miller and Isaac Estill erected what was known as Manns fort. It stood on the farm now owned by Baldwin Ballard. Here for many years these pioneers and their families took refuge from the barbarous and relentless foe who carried death and destruction wherever they went. Within the walls of this fortress was celebrated the first marriage that ever occurred in this

exemplary habits descendants of the voice of the wilderness.

When the wife listened to occurrences of have been transmitted to generation, two or three n

About the Bradshaws ran and late in the year attacked by wife and in children carried off horrid work morning after hunters, who with the savages which were John Miller. They procured a horrid but continued to stand in the eve savages never river, now resolved, daybreak arrived, the upon the along the savages seventh

section of Virginia. The bride was Christianna, the daughter of Valentine Cook; the groom was Philip Hammond, as brave a man as any whose name appears on the pages of frontier history. It was he who, in company with John Pryor in 1778, ran from Point Pleasant to Donnally's fort in Greenbrier, and gave the alarm in time to save the settlement from sharing the same fate of that on Muddy creek in 1763. The first white child born on the waters of Indian creek was Michael Swope, several of whose descendants still reside within the limits of this district.

Revs. John Alderson (Baptist), Jacob Cook and a Mr. Chambers were the first to proclaim the glad tidings of "peace on earth and good will to man" to the inhabitants of this then remote region, and how well they did their work is shown by the general records of a century ago, and by the exemplary habits and character of the descendants of those who first heard the voice of these evangelists of the wilderness.

When the writer visited this section he listened to many recitals of occurrences of pioneer days, which have been transmitted from generation to generation, but the production of two or three must suffice.

About the year 1781 there lived on Bradshaw's gap a family named Meeks,

descendants of these evangelists heard the voices of these evangelists of the wilderness.

When the writer visited this section he listened to many recitals of occurrences of pioneer days, which have been transmitted from generation to generation, but the production of two or three must suffice.

About the year 1781 there lived on Bradshaws run a family named Meeks, and late in the autumn his cabin was attacked by the Indians, himself, his wife and infant murdered and two children carried into captivity. This horrid work was discovered early in the morning after its occurrence, by some hunters, who hastened to Manns fort with the sad intelligence. A party, in which were Adam and Jacob Mann and John Miller, at once started in pursuit. They proceeded to the scene of the horrid butchery, and taking the trail continued on for five days, when late in the evening they came up with the savages near the mouth of Guyandott river, now in Cabell county. It was resolved, to defer the attack until daybreak the next morning. The hour arrived, the report of six rifles rang out upon the morning air and died away along the banks of the Ohio. Six savages lay still in death, and the seventh ran into the forest and

escaped. The children were unbound, and carried back to Manns fort, where they grew to an adult age.

About the year 1785, Valentine Cook was engaged in clearing a piece of ground near the fort; he had his gun and horse with him, but they were some distance from him, and he was surprised upon looking around to see them in the possession of a party of seven Indians. Having secured the gun and horse, they compelled the owner to accompany them up Indian Draft to a point near where Elijah Vass now resides. There they gave him a broken gun and an old grey mare in exchange for his, and then motioned him to return, but he did not understand them, thinking that if he attempted it they would kill him. He therefore stood still until one of the savages approached him, gave him a kick and shoved him in the direction of the fort. So with the old broken gun and mare he returned, perfectly satisfied with his bargain.

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RED SULPHUR DISTRICT

Lies in the extreme southwestern

approached him, gave him a kick and shoved him in the direction of the fort. So with the old broken gun and mare he returned, perfectly satisfied with his bargain.

RED SULPHUR DISTRICT

Lies in the extreme southwestern part of the county, and is bounded on the north by Springfield district; east and south, by Giles county, Virginia; west, by Summers county. The central and southern portion is drained by Brush creek and its tributaries, the principal of which are Rich creek and Scotts branch. Along the northern border flows Hans creek, a tributary of Indian creek.

The first settler within the present limits of this district, was Christian Peters, who reached his mountain home and reared his cabin in this then wilderness country, about the year 1770. From him the village of Peterstown takes its name, as does also the far-famed mountain range which here forms the dividing line between the old commonwealth and her daughter, West Virginia.

The district derives its name from the celebrated Red Sulphur Spring, the fame of which extends beyond the ocean and through out Europe. Persons suffering from pulmonary disease are more especially benefitted, and many who were unable to walk have been in a short space of time greatly improved. Here is perhaps to be found the nearest

Virginia, it appears to have vis of Union as early twenty-two years not long remain, others he made a through what is Tennessee, then and in 1774 ca settled near whe Soon after he sol portion of his l their cabins one where Major E resides.
It was in this Rehoboth Chur the first ever a and probably Church buildin mountains. It logs were "s hewn, while th and daubed." the worshiper church with t prepared in ca Indians.

SWEET

Lies in the county, north by All east, by Cra and west by districts. It county, bu inhabitants general assen The reason f

children were unbound, back to Manns fort, where at adult age.

In the year 1785, Valentine was engaged in clearing a piece of land near the fort; he had his gun with him, but they were taken from him, and he was looking around to see if he could get possession of a party of savages who had secured the gun. He compelled the owner to give him Indian Draft to pay Elijah Vass now. They gave him a broken bay mare in exchange.

He motioned him to go if he understood it. He therefore one of the savages gave him a kick and a refection of the fort. He took gun and mare and was satisfied with his

DISTRICT

The southwestern part of the county is bounded on the west by the Springfield district; east by the county of Virginia; south by the county of Kentucky. The central part of the county is drained by two tributaries, the Rich creek and the North Fork, a tributary of the Ohio river.

Within the present century, there was Christian Campbell in this region. He built a cabin in this then desolate country about the year 1780. He was the first white man to settle here, as does also the name of Campbell, which is the name of the line between the two creeks.

approach to the fountain of perpetual youth, so long sought after by the early Spanish voyagers and explorers.

UNION DISTRICT

Lies in the center of the county, for which reason it is called the "hub." It is bounded on the north by Second Creek district; west, by Sweet Spring; south, by Springfield, and west of Wolf Creek. The history of the town of Union—given elsewhere in this work—is the history of this district.

The first permanent settlers appear to have been James Alexander and his brother-in-law, Michael Erskine. Mr. Alexander was born in Augusta county, Virginia, in the year 1750, and appears to have visited the present site of Union as early as 1772, when but twenty-two years of age. But he did not long remain. In company with others he made an extended journey through what is now Kentucky and Tennessee, then returned to Augusta, and in 1774 came and permanently settled near where Union now stands. Soon after he sold to Michael Erskine a portion of his land, and both reared their cabins one mile north of Union, where Major Henry Robinson now resides.

It was in this district that the "Old Rehoboth Church" once stood. It was the first ever erected in the county, and probably the first Methodist Church building west of the Alleghany mountains. It was built in 1786. The logs were "scuttled," or roughly hewn, while the cracks were "chinked and daubed." Long after it was built the worshipers carried their guns to church with them, that they might be prepared in case of an attack from the Indians.

SWEET SPRING DISTRICT

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SWEET SPRING DISTRICT

Lies in the extreme eastern part of the county, and is bounded on the north by Alleghany county, Virginia; east, by Craig county; south by Giles, and west by Union and Second Creek districts. It was once a part of Craig county, but on petition of its inhabitants was, by an act of the general assembly, annexed to Monroe. The reason for this action, as set forth

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in the petition, was that there were several mountain ranges, among them Potts mountains, to cross in order to reach New Castle, the countyseat of Craig, and if the change were made they might reach the seat of justice of Monroe over a road of quite an easy grade.

It was here that the first surveys in the county were made. The first land located and surveyed was a tract of 154 acres, including the Sweet Springs, by John Lewis, in the year 1760. On the 25th day of September, 1760, a tract of 490 acres was surveyed for John Dickinson, and in 1770, a tract of 1,220 acres, including the Sweet Chalybeate Springs, was surveyed for Thomas and Andrew Lewis, sons of John Lewis. James Moss was the first permanent settler. He built his cabin near the Sweet Springs in the year 1760.

PERSONAL HISTORY
DEPARTMENT OF SECOND

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**PERSONAL HISTORY
DEPARTMENT OF SECOND
CREEK DISTRICT**

JACOB T. BLACK—born in Cabell county, (then) Virginia, January 4, 1842, and Ingabo C. Nickles, born in Monroe county, August 24, 1841, were united in marriage in Monroe county on the 25th of October, 1865. They are settled upon a farm he owns and tills in Second Creek district, and with them are their six children: Lelia T., born February 28, 1867; Peoria K., October 13, 1868; Mary V., May 16, 1871; John Cary, November 30, 1873; William T., May 8, 1877; Stella J., June 2, 1879. The parents of Jacob T. Black are Andrew and Nancy (Swann) Black, now residents in Teays Valley, Putnam county, West Virginia. John A. and Mary Jane (Patton) Nickles, the parents of Mrs. Black, were born and raised in Monroe county, and are still living here. The great grandfather of Mrs. Black was one of the earliest settlers in Monroe county, coming here from Ireland. She had two brothers in the Confederate army, one in the 27th Virginia Infantry. "Stonewall" Jackson's brigade, and the other in the 14th Cavalry. One was wounded in the arm in the fight at Georgetown, but

Isabella (Miller) Hawkins, Monroe county. He county near the village in which he now res of April, 1857, and mercantile business now senior member Hawkins, Gray & Co the firm conduct prosperous tra merchandise. Post o Grove, Monroe cou

S. TAYLOR HILL
Moses and Elizabeth who were long res county, West Virginia deceased. He was in county, November Monroe county, was united in mat Lemons, who was June 18, 1842. (McDowell) Lemons still honored by Mrs. Hedrick and J., born July 26, 1872; baby died unnamed 1875; Judson Effie E., July 23, died unnamed marriage Mr. I. Monroe county substantial family district, also business. Since West Virginia

**SAMUEL
Albert Joseph Hanna, was born June 8, 1852, and died June 31, 1882, a**

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both survive the war. Jacob T. Black was a member of Company E, 8th Virginia Cavalry, the first two years of the war, and the remainder of the war he was a member of Jackson's battery of Horse Artillery. He was made prisoner at Point Pleasant in 1862, and taken to Gallipolis, Ohio, thence to Wheeling. His post office address is Sinks Grove, Monroe county, West Virginia.

HIRAM HENDERSON

HAWKINS—is the eldest son of Archibald McDowell Hawkins and Isabella (Miller) Hawkins, both born in Monroe county. He was born in this county near the village of Rocky Point, in which he now resides, on the 23d of April, 1857, and has been in the mercantile business since 1875. He is now senior member of the firm of Hawkins, Gray & Co., of Rocky Point, the firm conducting a large and prosperous trade in general merchandise. Post office address, Sinks Grove, Monroe county, West Virginia.

B. TAYLOR HEDRICK

Moore and Elizabeth (McMurry) Hedrick

Spring, was surveyed
Andrew Lewis, sons of
James Moss was the first
settler. He built his cabin
at Sinks in the year

in which he died, on the 23d
of April, 1857, and has been in the
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NAL HISTORY
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DISTRICT

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C. Nickles, born in
August 24, 1841, were
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S. TAYLOR HEDRICK—is a son of
Moses and Elizabeth (McVey) Hedrick,
who were long residents of Greenbrier
county, West Virginia, and are now
deceased. He was born in Greenbrier
county, November 5, 1848, and in
Monroe county, November 9, 1869, he
was united in marriage with Martha A.
Lemons, who was born in this county,
June 18, 1842. Abram and Elizabeth
(McDowell) Lemons, her parents, are
still honored residents here. Mr. and
Mrs. Hedrick are the parents of: Minnie
J., born July 11, 1870; Asa A., May
26, 1872; babe born April 18, 1874,
died unnamed; Nannie L., August 16,
1875; Judson W., August 5, 1877;
Effie E., July 9, 1879; Maggie R.,
February 23, 1882; twin of Maggie,
died unnamed. In the year of his
marriage Mr. Hedrick made his home in
Monroe county, and he is one of the
substantial farmers of Second Creek
district, also engaging in the lumber
business. Sinks Grove, Monroe county,
West Virginia, is his postoffice address.

SAMUEL BROWN HANNA—son of
Albert Joseph and Sarah Rebecca
Hanna, was born in Greenbrier county,
June 8, 1857. His mother died March
31, 1882, and his father is still living in

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Greenbrier county. His grandfather was one of the earliest settlers in what is now Second Creek district, Monroe county, buying large tracts of land in this and Greenbrier counties, following farming and grazing for many years and dying at the age of eighty-three years possessed of a large estate. In Irish Corner district, Greenbrier county, August 10, 1880, Samuel B. Hanna was united in marriage with Malinda Susan Rodgers, who was born in Greenbrier county August 11, 1858. Mary, their daughter, was born August 12, 1881. Eli Rodgers, born in 1810, and Charlotte Rodgers, born in 1818, were the parents of Mrs. Hanna. Her father died April 22, 1881. Her mother is still a resident in Greenbrier county. One brother of Samuel B. Hanna served in the Confederate army through the war, and Mrs. Hanna's brother, Nathan P. Rodgers, served in the same war, 14th Virginia Cavalry, and is now living in Missouri. Mr. Hanna has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South) for seven years, and his wife has been ten years a member of the Presbyterian Church. He and his wife settled upon his farm containing 82 acres in Second Creek district February 23, 1883, and his postoffice address is Sinks Grove, Monroe county, West Virginia.

December 27, 1881. T
Mrs. Irons are Thomas
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physician and surgeon
address at Pickaway
West Virginia.

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Lucretia (Jones)

years a member of the presbyterian Church. He and his wife settled upon his farm containing 82 acres in Second Creek district February 23, 1883, and his postoffice address is Sinks Grove, Monroe county, West Virginia.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN IRONS,

M. D.—was born and raised in Monroe county, December 26, 1843 the date of his birth, and John and Susannah Irons, who were also natives of Monroe county, his parents. Thomas Irons, the grandfather of Dr. Irons, came to Monroe county about seventy-five years ago, from Scotland, and was among the earliest and most prominent settlers here. William Y. Irons, oldest brother, and Benjamin F. served in the Confederate army during the whole of the late war, members of Capt. Thomas A. Bryan's battery, which was raised in Monroe county. In Monroe county, June 25, 1873, Benjamin F. Irons and Sarah Amanda Johnson were united in marriage, and the children of their union are five: Oney Johnson, born April 24, 1874; Sarah Helen, November 3, 1875; Frank Ernest, October 14, 1877; Minerva Susan, November 22, 1879; Lula May,

dfather was in what is t, Monroe of land in following any years ghty-three estate. In Greenbrier amuel B. age with was born 1, 1858. n August n 1810, n 1818, na. Her mother county. Hanna army Hanna's served in Cavalry, ri. Mr. of the uth for en ten terian unio

December 27, 1881. The parents of Mrs. Irons are Thomas and Minerva (Hinchman) Johnson, who were born and raised in Monroe county, and she was here born August 5, 1847. Dr. Irons represented Monroe county in the house of delegates two years, elected by the Democratic party in 1880. He has been some years successfully engaged in practice as physician and surgeon, with post office address at Pickaway, Monroe county, West Virginia.

C H A R L E S A L E X .
HOGSHEAD—born in Monroe county, May 29, 1843, was a son of James Hunter Hogshead, who was a son of one of the earliest settlers in this county, his father coming here at an early date from Augusta county, Virginia. This grandfather of Charles A., who was of Irish descent, married Mary Smith, about the year 1799, and they had seven sons and two daughters. All settled for life in Monroe county, but a number are now deceased. Charles A. Hogshead entered the Confederate service at the outbreak of the civil war, and remained until the army disbanded.

Hogshead entered the Confederate service at the outbreak of the civil war, and served until the army disbanded. He was a member of the 26th Virginia Battalion, and never seriously wounded and never made prisoner, although he took a soldier's part in all the engagements of his regiment. He married Mary, daughter of Thomas and Lucretia (Jones) Charlton, born June 26, 1837, in Monroe county. Her father is still a resident in this district, her mother died June 19, 1879, at the age of sixty-five years. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Hogshead are two: Lola Adalee, born April 5, 1872, and Sarah Ann, born January 1, 1875. Mrs. Hogshead was a widow at her marriage with the subject of this sketch, her first husband, whose name was Vanstavern, dying in 1863, and leaving her two children, Thomas C. and Elizabeth Jane Vanstavern. Both are now living in this district. Charles Alex. Hogshead is farming in Second Creek district, with post office address at Pickaway, Monroe county, West Virginia.

JOHN B. HOGSHEAD—born in Second Creek district, Monroe county, is one of the prosperous farming residents of the district at this date. His birth was on the 20th of August, 1848, and his parents were James Hunter